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DCI/ICS 85-6429

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

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FROM:


Director, Intelligence Community Staff

SUBJECT: SSCI's National Intelligence Strategy

1. Attached at Tab A is our rewrite of the SSCI's National Intelligence Strategy. (Their original version is at Tab B.) Rather than start with a blank piece of paper, we made the decision that certain elements of the SSCI paper were salvageable and did not cause us any grief. Additionally, we believe that any alternative we propose to them would be much more palatable if they observe we did not throw their entire work away.

2. We believe that what is outlined here is achievable and goes along with the type of activity that we in the Community should be undertaking anyway. Its essence would be the development of the Strategic Planning Study, the translation of it into substantive programmatic guidance for the Community, the formulation of Congressional Justification Books and associated studies and analyses, and a feedback mechanism which would be an augmented annual report to the Congress addressing performance on an annual basis against the challenges. Such an approach eliminates all the detail, concentrates on key challenges, looks five to ten years into the future, and does an updating of the Strategic Planning Study about every two years. After the first two years, it may not be necessary to do a National Foreign Intelligence Strategy on an annual basis.

3. Having rewritten it hurriedly, we would also say that there continues to be some redundancy in the paper and its still quite verbose. With additional effort, this could be pruned down to half to three-quarters of its size.

Assessment of the SSCI Staff's Proposal

4. First, some general points influencing our response:

- The SSCI is asking for a mixture of the DCI's strategy for the Community and the detailed response of the Community to that strategy. It doesn't make sense to provide this information as a single document.


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